

MEXICAN FORCES MAY QUIT BORDER

Hill Promises Not to Pursue Maytorena if Latter Gives Up Siege at Naco.

IN CONFERENCE WITH SCOTT

Member and Also Secretary of Aguascalientes Convention Are Executed in Mexico City.

NACO, ARIZ., December 21.—If General Maytorena will withdraw his Villa forces from the siege at Naco, Mexico, General Benjamin Hill's Carranza forces will not pursue him, according to a tentative agreement between Hill and United States Army officers announced to-day.

Brigadier-General Hugh L. Scott was to have conferred with Maytorena to-day, but bad weather compelled a postponement. A further conference between General Scott and Hill is set for to-morrow.

ARAGON AND BERLANGA

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, December 21.—General Guillermo Aragon, a member of the Aguascalientes convention, and Colonel David Berlanga, secretary of the military chiefs' convention, were executed in Mexico City on December 8, according to advices received here to-day.

It was reported that Berlanga had assisted the actions of Gutierrez, Villa and other leaders at a meeting of the convention.

General Aragon, it was said, was accused of complicity in a plot to destroy telegraph and railroad lines in North Mexico, to hamper the movements of Villa troops.

EXECUTION OF POLITICAL OFFENDERS IN INTERIOR

EL PASO, TEXAS, December 21.—Additional reports of executions of political offenders in the interior of Mexico reached the border to-day. Persons arriving from Mexico to-day said sixteen men had been killed at the national capital in the last week. Reliable reports from Chihuahua City said that 140 persons had been killed there in the last month.

Several days ago General Villa's troops, it is said, took several prominent prisoners to Chihuahua City from Mexico City. It is not known if they are numbered among the dead. Among them were General Miguel Delgado, a former Federal commander, and several other Federalists. Guillermo Terrazas, of the rich Chihuahua family of that name, and Camilo, a rich resident of Parral. Baco is reported as held for ransom, together with Luis Terrazas, Jr., who has been detained at Chihuahua City for several months.

Edwain consul at Juarez was asked to-day to investigate the detention at Juarez of Albert Gonzales, said to be an American citizen. Gonzales was arrested on a charge of being a spy.

CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE NEUTRALITY

NOGALES, ARIZ., December 21.—Eight Mexicans, alleged to have been concerned in a scheme to aid the Carranza faction in Mexico, were arrested here to-day charged with conspiracy to violate the neutrality laws.

ZAPATA DEFEATS CARRANZA'S ARMY

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, December 21.—General Zapata inflicted a crushing defeat on Carranza's army at Puebla and Arizona yesterday, according to dispatches received at the State Department late this afternoon from Vera Cruz. Officials of the army and State Department are now expecting that Zapata will be able to besiege Vera Cruz, Carranza's capital.

Brief details of the battles at Puebla and Arizona, as sent here by Consul Canada from Vera Cruz, are that nine thousands of Carranza's dead officers of high rank have already arrived at Vera Cruz. The extent of the casualties indicates to army men that Zapata and Carranza's generals had perhaps 20,000 to 25,000 men each in the two battles. The unofficial accounts heretofore disclosed that there was a battle, but the great proportions of the conflict were only revealed in the official dispatches received to-day.

The scenes of the battles are from 125 to 150 miles from Vera Cruz. The hasty retreat of the Carranzas, army men say, means that Zapata has been able to save the Carranza's temporary move rapidly on Carranza's temporary capital, whence come constant reports that the people are at the mercy of the Carranzas soldiers and that ex-captains for "political offenses are of daily occurrence."

BRYAN GETS REPORT OF WILLINGNESS TO RETIRE

Secretary of State Bryan said to-day that he had received this morning dispatches from John R. Silliman, at Mexico City, and from one of his advisers, both of which indicated that General Maytorena would withdraw ten or fifteen miles from Mexico City.

It is significant that George W. Carothers, the English agent of Secretary Bryan, with General Villa was able to report on Saturday that General Maytorena would withdraw.

Secretary Bryan announced to-day that the British government had secured the release on \$25,000 bond of H. Percy Meaker, British subject who had been imprisoned by General Maytorena at Sonora.

Other dispatches say that eleven non-commissioned officers and General Blas Olinas were expected yesterday at Piedras Negras. Olinas and a small party made a raid into that town through Eagle Pass, and it is charged, endeavored to stir up its people against Carranza. In order to strike additional terror into the revolutionists, the Carranzas hanged two of the officers and kept the bodies on exhibition at the City Hall.

Secretary of War Garrison received brief dispatches from Generals Scott and Bliss this morning, but neither one of them mentioned the proposed withdrawal of Maytorena.

General Bliss says that there was desultory firing yesterday between the combatants at Naco, but no casualties on the American side. General Bliss reports the arrival of all the additional troops ordered to Naco by President Wilson.

RESERVE YOUR TABLES NOW

For Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 1914. Table of 10 seats from 5 P. M. to 1 A. M. Three dollars per cover. Ballroom ninth floor, dancing. Hotel Richmond.

SEA SAFETY PACT UNCHANGED

Absence of Members Prevents Move for Reconsideration in Senate.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Absence of leading members of Congress prevented any active move in the Senate to-day to bring about reconsideration of the resolution ratifying the London safety pact at sea convention, adopted last week.

An effort is being made to have the Senate rescind the resolution, because it reserves to the United States the right to impose more stringent regulations for health and safety on vessels plying in American waters than prescribed in the treaty. Many Senators believe the resolution would nullify the convention.

Several members of the Foreign Relations Committee said to-night they did not believe the Senate would reconsider its action, particularly in view of the fact that the ratification, under terms of the convention, must be reported and exchanged by December 31.

President Wilson, it was understood at the White House to-day, believes the Senate should reconsider its action.

BIG CHRISTMAS MELON CUT

Ohio Oil Company Stockholders Set Dividend of 133 1-3 Per Cent.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LIMA, OHIO, December 21.—A Christmas melon amounting to 133 1-3 per cent was cut to-day for the benefit of stockholders of the Ohio Oil Company, one of the Standard Oil subsidiaries. It took the form of distribution among the company's stockholders of stock of the Illinois Oil Company. The Ohio company is both an oil and a pipe line company, operating in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. It is capitalized for \$15,000,000, with stock at par listed at \$25 a share. Last year it made \$2,000,000 profits, equal to 152 per cent, and declared stock dividends of 57 per cent.

WATTS GOES TO NORFOLK

Will Become Industrial Manager of Navy-Yard.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Extension of the industrial management system to the Norfolk Navy-Yard was announced to-day by Secretary Daniels. Naval Constructor Watts, recently relieved from the duties of chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, will become industrial manager of the Norfolk plant, with Constructors Dubsone and Radford as assistants.

This step is result of the successful experiment at the New York Navy-Yard, where the naval and industrial features are separated. If success also attends the innovation at Norfolk, the new order probably will be extended to other yards.

TO END PATRONAGE ROW

Efforts to Straighten Out Differences Between Wilson and Senators.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Efforts to straighten out differences between President Wilson and some Democratic Senators over Federal appointments were made to-night at a conference between the President and Attorney-General Gregory. Several of the contested appointments were discussed. Mr. Gregory's jurisdiction, and he was consulted by the President as to the legal standing of men given recess appointments and later rejected by the Senate. Mr. Gregory refused to say what conclusion had been reached at the conference.

NO MONEY FOR DRY DOCK

House Subcommittee Leaves Proposed \$3,000,000 Out of Appropriation Bill.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—A House Naval Affairs subcommittee to-day agreed to leave out of the coming naval appropriation bill a proposed \$3,000,000 appropriation for a dry dock, operation of which Philadelphia and Norfolk have been contesting. The bill as now drawn is said to follow closely the department's estimates. It includes an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for aerodrome.

The construction program will be considered by the full committee after the holidays.

ALFRED HENRY LEWIS ILL

Unless Change Occurs, Will Literally Starve to Death.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, December 21.—Alfred Henry Lewis, journalist and author, whose "Wolfville" stories have won him an international reputation, is critically ill with stomach trouble at his home here. He has been failing for several months, but until very recently has not been considered seriously ill. Now, however, the physicians in attendance say his condition is grave, and he can die almost tomorrow, and it is feared that, unless a change occurs, he will literally die of starvation.

U. S. OFFICERS IN BERLIN

Hope to Obtain Permission to Observe Operations at Front.

BERLIN (via The Hague to London), December 21 (11:45 P. M.).—Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Kuhn, Major D. E. A. Mann, Major Clarence C. Williams, Captain William B. Burr, Captain Samuel G. Shurtle and Captain Samuel D. Rockenbach, United States Army officers, have arrived here from the United States by way of Munich. They hope to obtain permission of the German government to observe operations at the front.

WILSON'S CHRISTMAS PLANS

Will Spend Day Quietly With Family in White House.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—President Wilson will spend Christmas Day quietly with his family in the White House.

Plans for the President and his family have begun to arrive from all parts of the country. Herbert Cooh of Oklahoma, has sent him a turkey bearing a tag with this inscription: "This is a turkey on which you can declare war without fear."

GET MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS

Interborough's 14,000 Employees Will Receive \$5 Each as Gift.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, December 21.—Fourteen thousand employees of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company and the New York City Subway Company will receive less than \$115 a month will be given \$5 each for Christmas. The gifts will be in gold, and will be paid from an appropriation of \$70,000 made by the directors for the purpose.

Supreme Court Takes Recess.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—The Supreme Court took a recess until January 4.

U. S. ARMY AVIATOR IS DROWNED IN SEA

Aeroplane Wrecked While on Flight From San Diego to Los Angeles.

MACHINE'S PILOT RESCUED

Four of Six Aircraft in Contest for Trophy Meet With Accident.

OCEANSIDE, CAL., December 21.—Lieutenant F. J. Gersner, observer in one of the six United States Army scout aeroplanes that started to-day on a flight from San Diego to Los Angeles, was drowned in the sea, ten miles north of here. Captain L. H. Muller, pilot of the wrecked machine, was rescued by Captain L. W. Patterson, another army aviator, whose aeroplane had been wrecked near where Lieutenant Gersner met his death.

Muller was badly bruised by the fall. Gersner's body was recovered. Four of the six machines came to earth near here. The other machine reached Los Angeles in safety.

Stormy weather and bad air currents were blamed for the accidents. The planes were to have made the flight back from Los Angeles to support the number and disposition of troops maneuvering in the vicinity of San Diego. The contest was for a trophy.

EIGHTEENTH AVIATOR TO GIVE LIFE TO NATION

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Lieutenant Frederick J. Gersner, killed to-day at Oceanside, was the eighteenth aviator to give his life in the interests of government aviation, since Lieutenant Selfridge fell to his death at Fort Myer, Va., in 1908, testing the first military aeroplane. Fourteen army officers, two naval officers and two civilian instructors make up the toll. Lieutenant Gersner was only twenty-three years old. He was born in Michigan, and was appointed to the military academy in 1909. On graduating in 1912 he was assigned to the 3rd Cavalry, but recently he was assigned to the aviation school at San Diego, Cal. Signal Corps headquarters here had not received a report on the accident to-night.

CHILE PROTESTS TO GERMANY

Charges Violations of Neutrality in Nation's Waters.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—After a searching investigation of activities of the German fleet in the Southern Pacific recently, Chile has protested formally to Germany against alleged German violations of neutrality in Chilean waters.

The protest transmitted by the Chilean minister at Berlin sets forth that the German ships, prior to their departure, had been engaged in successful operations against the British merchant ship, the *Cradoke*, which was captured, stayed as long as five days at one island, and then transferred to another island, a stay of seven days. The protest is understood to be couched in vigorous language, demanding reparation.

At the same time the Chilean government has protested to Great Britain, charging that the British cruiser, the *Goose*, recently took coal from vessels in Chilean waters.

AMERICANS DECORATED

Austrian Emperor Confers Medal of Merit on Several Citizens of U. S.

VIENNA (via London), December 21 (11:20 P. M.).—Emperor Charles has conferred on the American ambassador, Frederic Courtlandt Pennington, Rear-Admiral Aaron Ward, United States Navy, and Commander of the American Red Cross, Mr. Cross, and the American minister to the Netherlands, Dr. Henry van Dyke, the Red Cross medal of merit for their services in connection with the American Red Cross mission to the dual empire.

Recently the Emperor decorated Mrs. Pennington with the grand cross of the order of Elizabeth. Her husband, the ambassador, is establishing a hospital at Vienna. The Red Cross mission was founded by the Emperor in commemoration of the semicentennial of the Red Cross Society, organized in 1864.

HOUSE PASSES MONEY BILL

Urgent Deficiency Measure Carries Appropriation of \$4,730,905.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—The House to-day passed an urgent deficiency bill carrying \$4,730,905, including \$554,371 to cover unexpected occupation of Vera Cruz. During the occupation of Vera Cruz, the United States troops at Vera Cruz, sent there to attack the administration's Mexican policy.

"The bill," he said, "carries half a million dollars to pay the expenses of our troops at Vera Cruz, sent there to obtain a salute of twenty-one guns, which has not yet been given."

HOTEL GOTHAM SOLD

Franklin Pettit Is Purchaser at Price of About \$3,000,000.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, December 21.—The Hotel Gotham, one of the most noted hostilities in New York, was sold to-day for \$3,000,000. The purchaser, Franklin Pettit, president of the Realty Company of America, was the purchaser.

The Gotham, at Fifty-fifth Street and Fifth Avenue, has for years been the rendezvous for the elite.

KAISER PERFECTLY WELL

Accompanied by Several Ministers, Returns to Western Front.

ROTTERDAM, December 21.—It is officially announced from Berlin that the Kaiser is perfectly well, and has returned to the western front, accompanied by his Ministers for War, Marine and Foreign Affairs and the Imperial Chancellor.

WORK FOR UNEMPLOYED

Toledo Will Care for 15,000 Men, Heads of Families.

TOLEDO, O., December 21.—Fifteen thousand men, heads of families, out of work, will be cared for by the city. Toledo to-night, approximately \$50,000 to employ the unemployed cleaning snow from the streets.

THAW MUST RETURN TO NEW YORK STATE

Loses Fight in U. S. Supreme Court Against Being Extradited From New Hampshire.

DECISION IS UNANIMOUS

Apparently Nothing Remains But Delivery of Noted Prisoner to Empire State Officers.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Harry K. Thaw lost his fight in the Supreme Court of the United States to-day against being extradited from New Hampshire to New York. The court held that the celebrated prisoner should be turned over immediately to the New York authorities, to answer an indictment for conspiring to escape from Matteawan Asylum.

Whether his escape, while, as counsel contended, he was insane, constituted crime, and other questions, the court dismissed with the comment that they could not enter into a habeas corpus proceeding, and that the proper questions for the State of New York to decide.

Actually, the celebrated Thaw case—the killing of Stanford White—was not before the court. Merely the question of returning him on the conspiracy question was up for decision.

What other moves if any were open to Thaw's counsel to prevent his return to the State where he was twice tried and had made many futile efforts to be released, those familiar with the legal procedure were at a loss to forecast.

FIGHT AGAINST RETURNING APPARENTLY IS LOST

To those who have followed the case it seemed that the fight against returning to New York was lost, and that nothing remained but for the sheriff of Coos County, N. H., to turn Thaw over to New York officers upon the extradition which was granted by the Governor of New Hampshire, but stayed by the decision of Justice Aldrich, which was to-day reversed.

Legal authorities who have followed the case pointed out to-day that New York, with its custody of Thaw secure, might now direct his immediate trial for conspiracy, or might annul the indictment and return the prisoner to Matteawan, or it might return him to the asylum in disregard of the indictment.

During the argument of the case before the Supreme Court, Chief Justice White intimated that immediate imprisonment of Thaw in Matteawan after his return might give rise to further habeas corpus proceedings, to determine whether a Federal right had been denied by placing him in an asylum after extraditing him for conspiracy.

"The case may remain in New Hampshire for thirty days unless his attorneys consent to his removal sooner, the mandate of the court is not issued until thirty days have elapsed, unless attorneys for both sides join in a request for an earlier order."

ESCAPES FROM MATTEAWAN

ON AUGUST 17, 1913

On August 17, 1913, Thaw escaped from the Matteawan Insane Hospital. Charged with conspiracy, he escaped. He was arrested in New Hampshire. He was indicted in New York on that charge, and application for his extradition was made to New Hampshire. Extradition was ordered by the Governor of New Hampshire, but on habeas corpus proceedings in the Federal District Court, Judge Aldrich held Thaw should be released.

Justice Holmes announced the court's unanimous decision to-day. He first overruled the contention that it was not a crime for a man confined in an asylum to be taken out if he could, and that, therefore, a conspiracy to do so was not a crime.

"We do not regard it as open to debate, that the withdrawal by conspiracy of a man from an insane asylum, to which he had been committed, as Thaw was, did tend to obstruct the due administration of justice."

At least, the New York courts must decide. Thaw, if indicted, must charge a crime. If there is any remote defect in the earlier proceedings by which Thaw was committed, which we are far from intimating, this is not the time and place for that question to be tried."

Justice Holmes said the most serious argument for Thaw was that if he was insane when he contrived his escape, he could not be guilty of crime, while, if he were not insane, he was entitled to be discharged, and that his confinement and other facts in the record would not be sufficient to assume that he was not sane.

"But this is not Thaw's trial," commented the justice upon that line of argument.

The extradition proceedings, even when, as here, a humane opportunity is afforded to test them upon habeas corpus, the purpose of the writ is not to substitute the judgment of another tribunal for the facts or the law of the matter to be tried.

"The Constitution says nothing about habeas corpus in this connection, but peremptorily requires that, upon proper showing of the facts, and even if it is delivered up to be removed to the State having jurisdiction in the crime, there is no discretion allowed, no inquiry into motives."

TECHNICAL SUFFICIENCY OF INDICTMENT NOT OPEN

"The technical sufficiency of the indictment is not open to question, even if it be true that the argument stated offers a nice question. It is a question as to the law of New York which the New York courts must decide."

"The statute that declares an act done by a lunatic not a crime adds that a person is not excused from criminal liability except upon proof that at the time he was laboring under such defect of mind as to know the nature and quality of the act he was doing, or 2. Not to know that the act was wrong."

"The inmates of lunatic asylums are largely of this kind, and have been so by appeal to the same motives that govern other men, and it would be dangerous, nevertheless, in many directions, to understand the nature and quality of his acts well, and was as open to be affected by the motives of the criminal law as anybody else."

"How far such consideration shall be taken into account, it is for the New York jury to determine whether, at the moment of the conspiracy, Thaw was insane in such sense as they may be taken into account."

(Continued on Third Page.)

GERMANS HELD AT BAY

Loses Fight in U. S. Supreme Court



HARRY K. THAW.

PROHIBITION QUESTION REFUSES TO CERTIFY

BEFORE HOUSE TO-DAY

LEO M. FRANK'S APPEAL

Legislative Weapons Furnished Up for Final Struggle Over Hobson Amendment.

OPPOSENTS FEEL CONFIDENT

Special Rule for Consideration of Resolution May Be Adopted, but Necessary Two-Thirds Vote for Final Passage Seems Doubtful.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Legislative weapons were furnished up to-day for the final struggle in the House of Representatives to-morrow over the Hobson constitutional amendment for national prohibition. The fight will begin at 10 o'clock and last until the roll call on the resolution to submit the amendment to the State Legislatures for ratification.

Opponents of prohibition were certain to muster the two-thirds majority necessary to send the joint resolution to the Senate. Supporters of the resolution claimed a substantial majority, which at least would assure victory in the preliminary skirmish. The vote on the special rule presented by Chairman Henry, of the Rules Committee, for the consideration of the resolution, was expected to be a close one.

The rule will be voted on after two hours' debate, and its adoption is virtually conceded, as many opponents of the resolution itself have announced they intend to vote for the rule to open the way for final action on the question.

Under terms of the rule, eight hours of general debate will be allowed on the resolution.

All efforts to arrive at division of time have failed, and Speaker Clark will endeavor to allot time as equally as possible to both sides.

The Hobson resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit sale, transportation for sale, exportation for sale and importation for sale, of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes in the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof are forever prohibited.

"Section 2. Congress shall have power to provide for the manufacture, sale, importation and transportation of intoxicating liquors for medicinal, mechanical, pharmaceutical or scientific purposes, or for use in the arts, and shall have power to enforce the same by all needful legislation."

The resolution carries a preamble setting forth that science has demonstrated alcohol to be narcotic poison, and reciting its evil effects.

There were some 300 members in Washington to-night, and prohibition leaders asserted their confidence that well over half of this number would vote for the resolution.

NEW FIGHT ON LESLIE WILL

Another Grandchild Seeks to Prevent Rich Heirloom to Suffrage Cause.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, December 21.—A third Supreme Court action, contesting the will of Mrs. Frank Leslie, who left the residue of her estate to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt for the cause of woman suffrage, was filed to-day by Arthur Leslie, grandson of Frank Leslie, husband of the testatrix. Two former actions were filed by two other grandchildren.

In the former actions the Leslie estate was estimated at \$1,800,000. In the new action it is estimated at \$2,000,000. Arthur Leslie alleges that this sum is entitled to \$222,222 of this sum. Like the other grandchildren he claims that Mrs. Leslie got the estate from her husband with the understanding that she was to have testamentary power over one-third of the estate, and that the other two-thirds was to go to Leslie's children, or their descendants by his first wife.

THE OLYMPIA TO BE REPAIRED

Admiral Dewey's Old Flagship Will Sail for Pacific on February 15.

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 21.—Orders were received here to-day for the United States cruiser Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship in the Spanish-American War, to be ready to sail on February 15 for the Pacific by way of the Panama Canal. The Olympia, which has been here since 1912, will go into dry dock for repairs.

More Relief for Belgians.

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 21.—A ship carrying approximately 6,000 tons of food and clothing, contributed by the people of South Carolina for the Belgian sufferers, will sail from Charleston on January 25, according to announcement made here to-day.

SUCCESS IN CARPATHIANS CLAIMED BY AUSTRILIANS

The Austrian communication claims successes in the Carpathians, and admits that the Russians again occupy Galicia and South Poland in force. Apparently, therefore, the Cracow and Przemysl investments are proceeding and have not been broken.

Serious fighting between the Russians and Turks around Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, has been stopped by a six-foot snowfall and intense cold, from which the Arabs are suffering bitterly.

Berlin publishes what purports to be an order issued by General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the allied forces in the west, dated December 17, exhorting the soldiers, and telling them the hour

BATTLES IN EAST BEING FOUGHT ON FIELDS OF SNOW

Russian and German Claims Continue Directly Contradictory.

TEUTONS MAKING FIERCE ATTACK TOWARD WARSAW

Grand Duke Nicholas's Army Opposes Them on East Bank of Bzura River.

AUSTRIAN ADVANCE CHECKED

In West Rival Forces Contesting Foot by Foot for Ground.

Both Sides Claim Advantage in West

THE German Emperor, according to late advices by way of Copenhagen, has gone to the front in the western theatre of war, where a general attempt by the allies to force the Germans backward has been going on for several days.

Both German and French official statements plainly show that operations of great severity are in progress, but they differ as to results achieved. The French claim advances all along the line; the Russians by British troops of trenches previously lost, and the repulse of German attacks aimed at the retaking of trenches which have fallen to the allies during the past day or two. South of Noyon also the French claim to have gained a foothold in the first line of the German trenches. In view of the confidence by the French of any repulse of the allied forces.

The German official statement tells of the dislodgement of the neighborhood of the canal of Labansee of the Anglo-Indian troops and the capture of their trenches after inflicting heavy losses on the British. The report of the capture of the trenches of the British, also, the Germans claim to have repulsed a fierce attack by the French, who lost many prisoners in their hands and a large number of dead in front of their positions.

While all the world is awaiting the outcome of the battles in Poland and Galicia, few details are being made public, probably because no definite decisions have been reached. The German official statement in the most recent Berlin bulletin, but the relative positions of the opposing forces are not mentioned.

The head of the general staff of the Russian army issued a statement from Petrograd, warning the Russian public against "malevolent reports" during the war, few days ago, concerning the condition and strategic positions of the Russian army.

The fact that the Russian armies have adopted a narrower front, it is explained by this official, was the result of a decision reached after consultation by the military authorities in view of the concentration in front of the Russians of considerable forces.

A call for \$150,000,000 of Great Britain's last war loan has been made without disturbance to English money markets.

The triple entente powers have given guarantees to Athens and Bucharest that Bulgaria will not attack Greece or Roumania, should Greece lend aid to Serbia, or should Roumania actively participate in the war.

LONDON, December 21 (10:40 P. M.).—In Poland and Galicia battles are being fought between the Russian and the German and Austrian allies amid deep snow in bitter cold. In Belgium and Northern France the German and the French, British and Belgian allies are contesting the mud fields foot by foot.

No news of any decisive gain came from either arena to-day.

The Russian and German claims continue directly contradictory.

The Germans in Poland again are making a fierce attack toward the capital, and the Russians are opposing them on the east bank of the Bzura River. Thirty miles west of Warsaw, Przemysl in Poland, the Austrians have been driven into the fortifications with heavy slaughter.

The Petrograd official report claims that the German force in North Poland has retreated across the boundary into East Prussia in a northwesterly direction. It asserts also that the Austrians advance through the Carpathian mountains to the north has been checked, and attempts of the Przemysl garrison to break through the lines have been repulsed. According to this report, the Austrians have been driven into the fortifications with heavy slaughter.

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